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FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4891
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 6036
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 7010
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC 2377

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000423

SIPDIS

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STATE INR/R/MR; IIP/R/MR; WHA/PD

DEPT PASS USTR

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KMDR](#) [OPRC](#) [OIIP](#) [ETRD](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: MIDEAST: MONDAY'S TERRORIST ATTACK, HAMAS
ROLE IN PA GOVERNANCE; SAO PAULO

"Attack in Tel Aviv"

Liberal Folha de S. Paulo (4/19) editorialized: "Monday's suicide attack in Tel Aviv has just shown how unstable the situation in the region is. Apparently carried out by the terrorist group Islamic Jihad, the attack matches Hamas' interests.... There is no doubt that the Palestinian National Authority is running the risk of being economically asphyxiated. Even the Arab and Islamic nations' promised aid tends to never come through. In rhetoric, all Islamic nations support the Palestinian cause. In the real world, however, Arab governments fear more the Hamas and the Islamic integration it represents than Israel.... The clock is also running against the Palestinian terrorist group.... It is only a matter of time before the Hamas begins to suffer damage in the public opinion. It will then try to attribute its difficulties to the 'Zionist enemy' and the U.S., but such a discourse has limited efficiency. The best way out for the Hamas to break the isolationism it will fall into is to recognize Israel's right to existence and participate in some type of peace negotiation with the Jewish state."
McMullen